

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. A nut, comprising:

a body having an outer wall and an inner wall, said inner wall defining a through hole, at least a portion of said through hole being tapered and having an inner diameter decreasing from a first diameter at a first end to a second diameter proximate a second end that is less than said first diameter;

a stop extending radially inward into said through hole at said first end of the body, the stop defining a bolt exit aperture of said through hole;

at least two guides formed coaxially on said inner wall of the body at said inclined wall hole;

at least two nut segments being movably disposed between the guides so as to permit sliding movement in an axial direction and radial displacement urged by sliding engagement of said inclined outer surfaces with said inner wall at said inclined wall hole, each of said nut segments including an inner surface facing a central axis of said through hole, said inner surface having a screw thread for engaging a thread of a bolt received therein;

a spring disposed in the body between said stop and said at least two nut segments to bias said at least two nut segments toward said second end of said body;

an attachment part provided on said body adjacent said second end thereof which extends axially from said second end, said attachment part including at least one fitting piece in a position spaced apart from said second end and projecting radially outward from the attachment part; and

an attachment member having a hole for accommodating the attachment part, said at least one fitting piece engaging said attachment member in a manner in which said attachment member and said body are mutually retained one to another.